

Serial No: 10/816,722
Atty Docket: CRC-166/47181-00288USPT
Amendment B, After Final

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REMARKS

Upon entry of the present amendment the claims under consideration remain 1-2, 4-5, 8-10, and 18-22. Independent Claims 1 and 18 are amended by the present amendment. Method Claims 11-17, previously restricted and withdrawn by the Examiner, are cancelled hereby. Claims 3, 6-7 and 23 were cancelled by the previous amendment.

Examiner Interview Summary

A telephonic interview was conducted between Examiner Bernard Rojas and Applicants' undersigned attorney on February 06, 2007. The "astride" limitation language of Amendment A was discussed in relation to Klein et al. 3,534,195 and its member 22 as cited in the final Office Action. The Examiner felt that "astride" did not sufficiently define the structural differences of the present invention since its definition may have more than one interpretation and Applicants' comments in the previous Amendment were not sufficiently limiting to the definition. The Examiner and Applicants' attorney agreed that further defining "astride" by returning the directional language "on top" of the original Claim 1 and indicating that the load brace part extended downward, sufficient structural description would clearly be in the claims to define over the prior art.

A discussion of the drawing objections was further had. It was agreed that since the positive recitation of a conductive cable was removed by the previous amendment, the objection would be withdrawn.

Applicants' attorney wishes to thank the Examiner for the courtesy shown him during their interview.

The Detailed Action of November 16, 2006 will now be addressed with reference to any subject headings or section numbers contained therein.

Drawings

The drawings stand objected to for not showing the conductive cable. Per the above discussion of the Examiner Interview of February 06, 2007, the present objection has been obviated. Applicants respectfully request that the replacement drawings filed

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with the Preliminary Amendment of 22 April 2004 now be indicated as acceptable for all purposes.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC §103

All Claims (1-23) stand rejected at page 4 of the Detailed Action as obvious over Felden et al., US 6,556,111 (hereinafter "Felden") in view of Klein et al. US 3,534,195, (hereinafter "Klein").

Per the above discussion of the Examiner Interview of February 06, 2007, the present rejections have been obviated, per agreement with the Examiner, by amending independent Claims 1 and 18 to clearly specify that "astride" delimits the brace (or second) member with a tab (or arms) extending downwardly over the main terminal (or first) member which it is on top of.

Conclusion

For all the foregoing reasons it is respectfully submitted that all claims under consideration have been placed in condition for allowance and all objections to the application have been obviated. A notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Applicants have intended to be fully responsive herein to the Office Action. If any issues remain the Examiner is invited to call Applicants' undersigned attorney at the listed number.

Favorable consideration is requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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